

# THE HARVEST

## Macdonald College of McGill University

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#### Recycling--GREAT IDEA-- BATTERIES NOT INCLUDED

What do I mean by batteries not included? Well, everything takes work and sacrifice. Improving the sorry state of the environment takes a lot of both. We, the Active Recycling Committee are a small group at Mac who are working to make our college more environmentally aware. We have had many obstacles this term that has made even the task of recycling paper difficult. We could do so much more at Mac if you could get involved. Yes, you!!

McGill's QPIRG (the group that handles recycling downtown) couldn't believe it when we told them of out lack of members. With all those students in Renewable Resources, Wildlife and Environmental Biology you must have no problem, they said. Truth is ARC has ONLY 2 students in Environmental Biology.

So what do the students have to say about this. Popular opinion is that ARC doesn't do anything anyhow. Do you feel that your opting not to get involved is going to help? Is school just about getting the highest GPAs? Will you be ready to explain why your C.V. doesn't include any extracurricular activities. Do you think the environment can wait until you graduate?

We at ARC don't want to

wait to take action. What are we doing, you ask? We are:

- \* Recycling paper and trying desperately to recycle glass
- \* Cooperating with QPIRG to support our recycling systems through promotion of recycled paper among Mac staff and students.

- \* Investigating and encouraging the development of a recycling system in Ste. Anne. (Yes, Mike, we'd love your help)

- \* Organizing our BOOK SALE, BOOTH FOR THE ROYAL, AND NEWSLETTERS for next semester.

- \* Speaking out against waste at the CC Cafeteria.

Does something in this list interest you? Good, now come to our next meeting or call me (Maria) at 453-5533. There are subcommittees for each objective but we really need more input. We meet Tuesdays at 11:00 in the library conference room. Watch the mouthpiece.

Maria Burglehaus  
ARC President

#### WORLD FOOD DAY ... PERSPECTIVES

Media events and other special events in Quebec were estimated to have reached approximately 500 000 people.

In the past, most of the activities arising from WFD tended to take place in the

academic community, CEGEPS and secondary/primary schools. Due to the strikes in the primary/secondary schools at the beginning of the school year, their participation was low this year. However, the participation at the university level was good; Universite de Laval, McGill ( including Mac ), and Universite de Montreal all took part in the day, with events at McGill, Mac, and U. of Laval taking place over a period of about a week. CEGEPS in Ste. Foy, Mt. Laurier, and Rimouski also participated. Activities included: food collections, displays, multicultural dinners, debates, conferences, presentations, videos and movies, each exploring a different facet of the food and hunger question. Without a doubt, the continued support of academic institutions is pivotal in building on the momentum gained by each year's activities.

One of the main goals of the World Food Day Association of Canada is to sensitize our people to the causes of hunger, and with this knowledge, to foster the motivation to take action towards its elimination. Of course, it is extremely difficult to evaluate to what extent WFDAC has been successful in this endeavor, but it is possible to say that in general, those who

are aware of World Food Day think of it in positive terms. But thinking is not enough. The question that needs to be asked in considering the success or failure of events is if the participation in WFD has contributed to motivating any individuals to make a change in their lives, that in their eyes, contributes to the reduction of hunger. That is a question that only you can answer.

BY JUDITH BRISSA  
Coordinator for Quebec WFD Committee

#### The Rex

Not many people remember the old cinema as anything but the "film box" but the "Rex" is now open and awaits eagerly for business. It has been closed for the past 15 months due to the former owner's retirement and, almost became a parking lot.

The illustrious "Rex" saw its beginning in 1923. New owner Richard Desjardins along with a former employee for 15 years and now the new manager, Marc Richard, have worked hard at getting it going again. Major renovations have taken place to return it to its former splendour. The cinema has been redone to echo its earlier magnificence and to conform to the town's safety

regulations. The "Rex" has an intricately patterned ceiling with newly upholstered seats. The walls have been refinished with a marbled look for an art deco style along with a bright outdoor sign displaying the cinema's original name "The Rex". There are also plans to eventually renovate the 3 balconies. Best of all now, though, is the new Dolby sound system and screen. Talking with the new owner, Richard Desjardins, he informed me that most shows are double bill for \$5.00. From Sunday to Tuesday, the double bill will consist mostly of action/adventure films such as Indiana Jones and James Bond type. Wednesday to Saturday, quieter, "Rainman" type films will play in the double bill. All double bills consist of one french movie and one english movie. Presently, the english movie is shown at 7:30 pm and the french movie afterwards. This is a trial, though. Saturday and Sunday's, children's matinees are shown. They are shown twice a day. Admission is \$ 4.00 for adults and \$ 3.00 for children.

Marc Richard is quick to add that they want to emphasize quality and cultural films to attract and please everyone. They have provided a rapid turnover in films, matinees, and french films. Since they are also considered a repertoire cinema, we can expect to see "Roger Rabbit", "Turner and Hooch" but also "Gone with the Wind" and "The Rocky Horror Picture Show". "Back to the Future Part II is expected soon.

Despite having initial trouble opening, there is

great enthusiasm down at the cinema about what it can offer, and its new look. This is the place to come and get away from it all when studying get you down. For more information :457-5341.

Lynn Lalonde

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#### ECOLOGICALLY-SOUND CAMPUS CARE ON ITS WAY?

An apparent institutional hypocrisy seems to have existed at Macdonald College for quite some time. Despite having on hand Ecological Agricultural Projects (EAP), REAP, a new Minor in Ecological Agriculture, the Springtails (a student group interested in such agriculture), and the noted Dr. Stuart Hill, those responsible for the upkeep of the campus had, until recently, steadfastly refused to apply ecologically-sound principles to the maintenance of the grounds. In winter, they over-salted paths and roads to the point of leaving carpets of salt crystals on merely moist pavement. The excessive salt probably then contributed to the dying-off of grass along the paved areas (not to mention salt damage to cars and footwear), and its replacement with more resistant weeds. This result was then, in turn, dealt with by placing new turf and by spraying with herbicides.

However, all ecologically-aware people at Macdonald College now have cause for some minor celebration: it would seem that sand has replaced salt in some strategic places. Whether this is only a short-lived trial is unknown. Qualified congratulations are

due to those responsible, but let's see more!

Nevertheless, this was only a partial victory and we cannot rest until salt is wholly replaced with sand and until something is done about the application of herbicides during the summer. There was at least one spraying done last summer that I would suspect to have been unsafe.

The herbicide was applied during a dry spell and was either applied to or drifted onto the area of the baseball field. The dryness continued for a couple of weeks so that the smell (hence, probably, the physical presence) of the herbicide persisted in the dust of and over the field for at least one week. Moreover, softball games were still taking place during that period.

I would think that sustained physical exertion in the presence of herbicidal residue would boost the dosage, thus the toxicity of the agent above whatever "safe" level of exposure might have been determined by the relevant regulatory agency. This would especially have been true, if as undoubtedly must have been the case, the regulatory agency or toxicologists specified a "safe" limit under certain assumptions about the circumstances of application. I am quite sure that only one limit would have been set, and this only for some assumed "average" circumstance, probably not for a sports field or park.

The following suggestion is mainly based on aesthetics, but why can't large parts of the campus grounds, except for the baseball and soccer fields, be converted to resemble a

typical abandoned field or pasture of Québec? This would be instead of trying to perpetuate an eighteenth or nineteenth century aristocratic notion of a park as Nature, well-ordered and dominated, with long vistas. What with housing "development", the natural field is a fast-disappearing part of the landscape of Montréal Island. A natural field would be an ideal site for studying native and introduced plant species, for birdwatching, or, with a few groups of boulders as seats, for having summer lunches. Provided that populations of other plant species could be sufficiently well-established, noxious plants such as ragweed should not gain a foothold. As well, the field could be much less intensively maintained, perhaps being mown once or twice a year, if at all, instead. This would save on fuel, maintenance and other inputs used by Campus Care. It would also obviate the need for the application of herbicides except, perhaps, in isolated spots. This is a challenge that I hope someone will take up.

Peter S. Tarassoff

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#### TABLOID HEADLINES

. Tots raid toy store - and leave with cart full of loot (Weekly World News, Nov 14/1989)

. Lizards trained to sing "Love Me Tender..." (The Sun, Nov. 7/1989)

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DEADLINE / TOMBEE: 18/01/90.  
11:00 AM HARRISON HOUSE